

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPTA-02 ACDA-12 OMB-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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P R 291607Z SEP 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3384
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDEV MILI NU CU
SUBJ: VISIT OF SANDINISTA REPRESENTATIVE

REF: A. HAVANA 2982 B. HAVANA 2981

1. TOMAS BORGE, VISITING MEMBER OF NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF FSLN (REF A), HELD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 26, WITH FIDEL CASTRO. GRANMA REPORTS THAT BORGE BRIEFED CASTRO ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN NICARAGUA AND EXPLAINED "NEED FOR GREATER INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY." BORGE REPORTEDLY ALSO REFERRED TO DESIRABILITY OF ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT OF "POPULAR, NATIONAL, DEMOCRACY UNITY" IN NICARAGUA. BORGE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MANUEL PINEIRO ("BARBA ROJA"), CHIEF OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMERICAS DEPARTMENT OF CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE--IN LATTER'S FIRST APPEARANCE IN RECENT WEEKS (REF B).

2. BORGE HELD PRESS CONFERENCE, SEPTEMBER 27, IN WHICH HE CLAIMED THAT CUBA HAS NOT SUPPLIED ARMS TO FSLN "BECAUSE OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SITUATION."

BORGE, HOWEVER, MENTIONED "PRACTICAL" HELP RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND, IN WRITTEN DECLARATION, THANKED CUBA FOR ITS "MILITANT MORAL SOLIDARITY."
(COMMENT: LOCAL SANDINISTAS TOLD VISITING NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT ALAN RIDING IN AUGUST DURING HAVANA WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL THAT CASTRO HAD MET WITH NICARAGUANS AND TOLD THEM THAT PROVISIONS OF DIRECT CUBAN HELP WOULD BRING FORTH REACTION AGAINST FSLN BY US AND OTHER HOSTILE FORCES. RIDING WAS ALSO TOLD THAT THE THREE SANDINISTA FACTIONS HAD PATCHED UP THEIR DIFFERENCES AT FESTIVAL-- WITH CUBAN ENCOURAGEMENT. USINT HAS NO MEANS OF CONFIRMING VERACITY OF SANDINISTA STORY. REGARDING FOREIGN HELP ISSUE, WE NOTE THAT GRANMA, SEPTEMBER 28, REPORTS DEPARTURE FOR NICARAGUA OF PANAMANIAN "VICTORIANO LORENZO INTERNATIONALIST BRIGADE" COMPOSED OF "HUNDREDS OF YOUNG PANAMANIAN" HEADED BY HUGO SPADAFORA AND JORGE APARICIO.)

3. BORGE'S WRITTEN PRESS CONFERENCE DECLARATION REFERS TO RECENT FSLN SETBACKS AS "A DYNAMIC, TACTICAL WITHDRAWAL OF OUR COMBATANTS TO MOUNTAIN AND RURAL ZONES." BORGE, IN HIS ORAL COMMENTS, SPECIFICALLY DOWNPLAYED SCALE OF SANDINISTA CASUALTIES AND SAID GUERRILLAS ARE PLANNING NEW FORMS OF COMBAT.

4. ON MEDIATION EFFORT, BORGE'S WRITTEN DECLARATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHARACTERIZES USG EFFORTS AS "DESPERATE" ATTEMPT TO FIND "NON-REVOLUTIONARY" SOLUTION. (PANAMA, VENEZUELA, MEXICO, AND COSTA RICA ARE LISTED AS GOVERNMENTS THAT DISAGREE WITH U.S. EFFORTS.) BORGE'S STATEMENT INDICATES THAT SANDINISTAS SUPPORT "PROPOSED PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT" (PRESUMABLY THIS REFERS TO THREE MEN INITIALLY NOMINATED BY FRENTE AMPLIO OPOSITOR), PROGRAM OF GROUP OF TWELVE, CONFISCATION OF SOMOZA FAMILY PROPERTIES, AND FORMATION OF "DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR" ARMY. UNTIL THESE CONDITIONS REALIZED, AND ALL UNITS OF NATIONALGUARD ARE DISBANDED, SANDINISTAS SAY THEY WILL CONTINUE "REVOLUTIONARY WAR." BORGES ADDED THAT FSLN WILL ACCEPT PARTICIPATION IN NEW NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT BY ALL POLITICAL FORCES, INCLUDING "CONSERVATIVES," BUT SAID SANDINISTAS WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH SOMOZA NOR ACCEPT "ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY" MILITARY OR CIVILIAN SUCCESSOR REGIME.

5. COMMENT: BORGE'S COMMENTS ON CUBAN SUPPORT ARE CONSISTENT WITH HAVANA'S EFFORTS TO KEEP HIDDEN WHATEVER ASSISTANCE IT IS PROVIDING FSLN. ON MEDIATION EFFORT, CUBANS ARE NOW ASSERTING THAT US IS SEEKING TO SPLIT OFF NICARAGUA BUSINESS COMMUNITY FROM FSLN AND TO

FORM CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT WHICH WILL QUELL
"INSURRECTIONIST SPIRIT" IN COUNTRY.
LANE

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